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The Center for International Affairs



Harvard University STAT

Executive Registry

November 17, 1984

William Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Director Casey,

I am writing to you in the hope that you may be able to effect a change in policy regarding the dissemination of a publication of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS). As you may know, JPRS translates materials from foreign newspapers into English and publishes their translations in a series of reports, some of which are regional and others of which are topical. Most of these series, as I understand it, are produced in both public and FOUO (For Official Use Only) versions. public versions are available on file at public libraries and university libraries around the country. These have proved to be a fantastic resource for both scholars and teachers. Personally speaking, I have used them in my own research and have required my students to make use of them in writing their research papers. Indeed, it is worth noting that the most recent edition of the News published by the American Political Science Association discusses the use of FBIS reports in international politics courses in its lead story.

I am presently engaged in writing a dissertation on the subject of American foreign policy and international drug trafficking. I am also advising senior theses in this area. I have discovered that JPRS produces a Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs version which, however, is only produced in an FOUO version. I understand from my correspondence and conversations with JPRS that at one time there was also a public version, but that it was discontinued. No one that I have spoken to is quite sure why the narcotics report was put off limits to the public. Most of the reasons that have been offered (see the attached letter) do not explain why that report has been handled differently than the others.

I should also explain that in my capacity as an intern at the State Department over the past few months, I have had access to the JPRS narcotics reports. My problem is that so long as they are marked FOUO, I am not permitted to make use of them for my dissertation, and my students are not permitted to see them.

My purpose in writing to you, therefore, is to request whether you would be willing to change the policy so that a public version of the JPRS narcotics report would be available in the libraries.

P304

Given the growing interest in this area, and the possibility that students and academics might be able to contribute something in this area, it would seem that there is little to lose and perhaps something to gain by allowing a public version of the JPRS narcotics report to be available to the non-governmental community.

Insofar as you seem to be the only one who has the authority to change the policy with regard to this issue, I strongly hope you will be able to respond favorably. I look forward to hearing from you.

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U. S. JOINT PUBLICATIONS RESEARCH SERVICE

1000 N. Glebe Road • Arlington, VA 22201 • 703 841-1050

8 November 1984

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This will respond to your letter of 1 November 1984, in which you seek an explanation of the reasons why the JPRS WORLDWIDE REPORT; NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS is published "For Official Use Only."

This report is produced at the request of, and for the use of, U.S. GOVERNMENT analysts and specialists, such as those at the Bureau of International Narcotics Matters of the Department of State, rather than specifically for the general public or the academic community. Public dissemination of JPRS materials is an incidental by-porduct of our activities and not the original purpose. FBIS uses the "For Official Use Only" control (it is not a classification) on this report series on advice of legal counsel for the following reasons:

- 1. Some of the media sources exploited for, and appearing in this publication bear valid copyrights and materials from them cannot, therefore, be made available for sale to the public;
- 2. The activities of U.S. persons are occasionally mentioned incidentally within this publication and FBIS is obligated by Executive Order to restrict dissemination of such information.

At one time, the narcotics report was actually published in two versions: without control and with the FOUO control where applicable. This practice was halted some time ago to avoid inadvertent disclosure and unwarranted extra handling of selected items. It might be of interest to you to know that major foreign narcotics developments are regularly published in the FBIS Daily Report series especially in the Latin America volume.

These are available to the public on subscription from the National Technical Information Service of the Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA. 22161 and are also on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and many public and university libraries throughout the country.

We are aware that FBIS Daily Reports do have a tear-off Annex for certain materials whose dissemination must be controlled. While the production of such tear-off pages was deemed feasible for the eight FBIS daily books, it was not considered to be cost effective or practical for the many more JPRS serial reports, most of which appear in open, as well as FOUO versions each month.

Hoping that the above will be a satisfactory explanation of this aspect of our rather complex publishing activity and will adequately serve your needs, I wish to thank you for your interest in the JPRS product and remain,

Deputy Ch/lef

U.S. Joint Publications Research Service